

# **CITY OF REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES**

**July 10, 2003**

**Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Chairperson Rebecca LaBrunerie, Una McAlinden, Heidi Houghton (arrived at 7:10 p.m.), Cara Byrne, Phil Teller, Latha Sambamurti, Kate Cochran; Youth Advocates Joscelyn Doleac and Nicole Rollofson

**ABSENT AND EXCUSED:** Kay Tarapolsi, Jill Schmidt

**STAFF PRESENT:** Melna Skillingstead, Arts Administrator; Marta Hurwitz, Community Affairs

**AUDIENCE PRESENT:** None

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## **AGENDA**

***Note: Bold/italic text denotes Staff and Commissioner follow-up resulting from this meeting.***

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Rebecca LaBrunerie called to order the regular meeting of the Redmond Arts Commission (RAC) at 7:00 p.m. at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center (ORSCC).

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion for approval of the RAC minutes of June 12, 2003 as submitted by:**

Commissioner Byrne

**Second by:** Commissioner Teller

**Motion carried:** 6-0 unanimous

### **III. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

General RAC Business:

- June 30, 2003 Special RAC Session Report

Arts Education:

- Grant Recommendation – Commissioner Byrne

Performing / Literary Arts:

- Marketing Task Spreadsheet – Commissioner LaBrunerie

#### **IV. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

None present

#### **V. GENERAL RAC BUSINESS**

##### **A. Chair/Vice Chair**

###### **1. New Commissioners**

Chair LaBrunerie introduced and welcomed the two new commissioners, Latha Sambamurti and Kate Cochran, as well as the two new youth advocates, Nicole Rollofson and Joscelyn Doleac. Each gave a brief bio.

###### **2. Committee Assignments**

Commissioner Sambamurti volunteered to chair the Performing Arts Committee, as well as work on literary arts (*Write Out Loud!*) once/year.

##### **B. City Web Site Demo and Discussion (Room 203)**

Commissioners viewed a demo of the Arts Commission web site, given by Marta Hurwitz, Community Affairs, Planning Department. Hurwitz offered suggestions to make the RAC site more appealing, user friendly, etc. Commissioners made these requests:

- Combine the two pages (Arts and Cultural page and Arts Commission page) to be under one page: Recreation and Arts.
- Provide a feature button for Arts in the Parks on the City's home page.
- Provide visuals and RAC mission statement at the top of RAC home page.

***LaBrunerie asked committee chairs to look at their specific areas on the web site and e-mail Skillingstead with updated text if needed.*** Hurwitz added that Commissioners could copy and paste the URL into an e-mail to Skillingstead of the page that needs attention. She cautioned that whatever is added to the site, must be updated and maintained.

Youth advocate Rollofson suggested that one person per program could submit their ideas and text to Skillingstead, who would edit and format for consistency.

***Commissioners agreed and would follow up.***

***Skillingstead will e-mail Commissioners when Hurwitz has made the requested changes. LaBrunerie will e-mail Skillingstead with appropriate action items.***

#### **C. Continuing Business (See Task List)**

LaBrunerie explained to the new Commissioners the purpose of the Task List (short and long term tasks, history). LaBrunerie referenced a task she will work with Patrick Hirsch, RCTV: They will do a walk-through in late August/early September of the City's sculptures for filming. She offered to e-mail the outline to any interested Commissioners who might wish to add their ideas. The film would be used for RCTV, but also to show visitors who come to the City. ***After this meeting, LaBrunerie will add tasks to the list and e-mail to all. She asked that when tasks are completed, to e-mail completion dates to Tarapolsi, who will update the list.***

#### **D. June 30, 2003 Special RAC Session Report**

Byrne reported on the visioning meeting of 6/30/03 attended by five Arts Commissioners. Public input is being taken this summer at City Council meetings for the PRO Plan, the 20-year Comp Plan, the possible future park bond, the new City Hall, etc. Byrne believed it was necessary to have a vision statement for the next 20 years and to list three top priorities to present to Council. The following priorities were listed at the June 30 meeting:

- Art Center
- Art within the infrastructure throughout Redmond (e.g., art as part of planning/design of the new City Hall Campus)
- Entice artists to Redmond with a way to showcase their art

A survey was drafted to ask the following questions of all Commissioners, and also of other arts organization in the city:

- List three top priorities for future art in Redmond in the next 20 years.
- List contact information if willing to be part of a forum to discuss art in Redmond.

LaBrunerie reported on her meeting with Danny Hopkins, Parks and Recreation Director. He supported the following:

- An Arts Commissioner (he will nominate) to sit on a "blue ribbon committee" for the City Hall re-design to insure that art is implemented in the structure/project.
- A performing arts center at the new city hall (it would need to be post election).
- RAC chair to discuss with him any time there is an art opportunity within a park.

Hopkins noted he would be giving a speech in the fall 2003 to a parks and recreation audience, and he would like to highlight the arts education accomplishments of Redmond Parks and Recreation. LaBrunerie and Skillingstead will be assisting him with information.

LaBrunerie will meet with Lori Snodgrass, Park Board Chair, 7/30, to introduce RAC's vision and the three top priorities.

Skillingstead reported that Mike Paul, Public Works project manager, is aware that art needs to be included in the City Hall project, and that a Commissioner wants to be involved from the beginning.

Youth advocate Doleac suggested including an older architectural style of art in contrast to the modern building style of the new City Hall in order to be more eye-catching. Teller noted it would be important to design art that would still be aesthetically pleasing decades from now.

## **VI. Visual Arts**

### **A. Project(s) Status**

#### **1. \$500 Honorarium Recommendation**

Teller reported there was original funding for 14 pieces of art for the Outdoor Sculpture Garden; however, only 13 artists are in the Exhibit. The Visual Arts Committee recommended using the fourteenth honorarium of \$500 to assist artists coming from out of town who would have considerably more expenses in transporting their sculptures to Redmond.

**Motion for approval to use one of the \$500 honorariums to pay for artists' expenses coming from out of state by:** Commissioner Byrne

**Second by:** Commissioner Houghton

**Motion carried:** 7-0 unanimous

Byrne relayed that Tarapolsi still would like help on August 4 with installation. *Commissioners may let her know if they are available.* Skillingstead will be there as well.

#### **2. Visual Arts Meeting – May 27, 2003**

The following are the e-mailed notes taken at the Visual Arts meeting held 6/23/03 and attended by Tarapolsi, Houghton, Teller, Sambamurti, and Schmidt, as well as Linda Teller, Pam Rembold and Melna Skillingstead:

## **a. New Business**

### **1) Photo archives**

Houghton has been checking throughout the city to see if art is where it should be and if it has been photographed. She has asked Linda Teller to help with possible re-shoots. Eventually these photos can be used as graphic embellishment or for marketing, etc., by the City. This is a back burner project. Houghton suggested the following list as representing the indoor collection:

- Elise Farrel McWhirter
- Redmond Montage
- Fantail Bird
- The Trestle, Redmond
- Untitled - FibreWall hanging in Senior Center pool room
- Spectators
- Crow Control
- If I Were in Your Shoes
- Impressions in Time – Sammamish Niche (water fountain surround piece)
- Rhythms
- Moonflight
- Raku Painting Through the Trees (Raku pottery)
- Tulips (for photography)
- One of the glass fans
- ORSCC Community Center sign and radiator grill
- Raven Headdress

### **2) Council Chamber Kids Art**

Byrne outlined her idea for kids' art in the Council Chambers:

**What exists now:** The Council Chambers environment is sterile while the LWSD School Board chambers are enlivened with student art displays.

**What could be:** Enhance the Council Chambers through student Art. In Redmond, we have six elementary schools, two junior highs, and one high school (plus some students at LWHS) in the city limits. With each school having one month to display student art, there would be nine (or 10) months of art displays during each school year. Only in the summer months would the Council Chambers not have any student artwork.

**How it could work:** At the beginning of each school year Redmond schools would be assigned a month to hang and display student artwork. The art could be in the back of the council and in front of the podium.

Each school (or PTSA) would be responsible for hanging and removing art.

**Bonus:** The art could get a quick mention at the beginning of each televised (council or other) meeting. The *Redmond Reporter* or *Focus* could cover the story. Having the children's artwork displayed at the Council Chambers is about building a community atmosphere in the Chambers (kind of like the Salmon at City Hall currently from Horace Mann) and getting more exposure for the Redmond student's artwork.

**Next Steps:** Coordinate with LWSD to schedule schools. Check to see if EAFA could display art in the summer months. Check to see if RCTV has acoustical or visual problems with art display. Check on how art would be hung (e.g., pins or other). Get answers to previous, write proposal, give to Director Hopkins and check with Council members for comments.

**Other ideas:** Art on the ceiling (another back burner idea).

#### **b. Old Business**

- **Sculpture Exhibit Finalists:** Tarapolsi will supply this summary.
- **Not Hollywood:** The committee worked on details of this proposal. Teller will rewrite and share at the August RAC meeting. Discussion will follow if time permits.
- **Perrigo/Grass Lawn Parks' "Call for Artists" – Status:** The following is the currently proposed call (further details forthcoming):

Redmond is looking for a few good artists! Artists who wish to see their work in Grass Lawn Park and Perrigo Community Park can download a prospectus for both these projects at: [www.ci.redmond.wa.us](http://www.ci.redmond.wa.us). For more information contact Melna Skillingstead at 425-556-2316 or e-mail [mskillingstead@ci.redmond.wa.us](mailto:mskillingstead@ci.redmond.wa.us).

Grass Lawn Park's facilities include soccer fields, basketball and tennis courts, play areas, fitness court, picnic shelter and restrooms. Two pieces of art with sports themes already exist on site. Deadline is TBD. Budget is approximately \$30,305.00.

Perrigo Community Park has facilities for sports and family activities, as well as wetlands/interpretive walk areas. This project is particularly attractive for novice public artists because design team artist, Elizabeth Conner, has already completed a preliminary design incorporating the multiple uses

of Perrigo Community Park. Novice (or experienced) artists wishing to be part of the team can get more information from the web site or by contacting Melna Skillingstead, Arts Administrator, for the Redmond Arts Commission. Deadline is TBD. Budget is TBD.

- **Fire Station Plaza Bench – Status:** Byrne will be meeting again with the Jim Cumming of the Rotary. The Rotary is interested in helping with funding of the bench(es). Update forthcoming at the RAC meeting.
- **Art Outside the Box – Status:** Design for boxes at the ORSCC site are ready to show to the silk-screener and Public Works. This would probably affect how the final design looks. Also under consideration to paint is the large mailbox in the front of the ORSCC.
- **Art Walk:** Discussion postponed.
- **Derby Days Masks – Schmidt:** Schmidt showed a mask idea for RAC members to wear while passing out brochures in the parade. The masks require tag board and sunglasses. Teller will provide sunglasses; Schmidt will make masks. Help will not be turned down.

#### **B. Funding Needs**

None

#### **C. Marketing**

None

#### **D. New Business**

##### **1. OSG Recommendation – Eastside Association of Fine Arts**

Byrne read the Eastside Association of Fine Arts brief bio and request for \$1,500 from the RAC Organizational Support Grant. Byrne conveyed Tarapolsi's recommendation of \$1,000, which would leave a zero balance of grant funds available for 2003.

**Motion for approval to award the Organizational Support Grant of \$1,000 to the EAFA by:** Commissioner McAlinden

**Second by:** Commissioner Houghton

**Motion carried:** 7-0 unanimous

The next Organizational Support Grant applications are due October 17. The fund begins again with \$4,000 available for the first round.

## E. Staff Reports

None

## VII. Performing/Literary Arts

### A. Project(s) Status

*LaBrunerie will meet with Teller on Not Hollywood in mid August.*

### B. Funding Needs

None

### C. Marketing

Houghton noted she was not aware that she was responsible for the entire marketing for Arts in the Parks (AIP)—only press releases. Byrne noted that with the absence of a Performing Arts Committee chairperson, Commissioners were doing their best. The following marketing accomplishments have been done for AIP:

- Press releases (Houghton) (*LaBrunerie and Houghton will follow up with the City to repeat press releases in August*)
- Information distributed to school principals (Byrne)
- Posters printed (Skillingstead)
- Banner for the railroad trestle (Teller/Skillingstead)
- Announcements to Burning Man and other lists (Teller)
- Commissioners e-mailed/invited 10 people they knew (all)

Houghton emphasized the need to create a “buzz” for AIP, more than just press releases. McAlinden added there is a need to reach the immediate people in Redmond. *Houghton and LaBrunerie will work together on marketing the week of 7/21/03.*

LaBrunerie explained the marketing task list to the new Commissioners and youth advocates, and asked for their contribution to the marketing efforts.

Ideas and discussion ensued on The Edge Skate Park AIP event.

- *Doleac volunteered to work on marketing for The Edge event.* She noted that, ideally, it would have been best to market to schools prior to school ending.
- Teller suggested getting the names of taggers and having them advertise on the skate wall. *Doleac will locate the tagger to put on the wall as soon as possible.*
- *Skillingstead will check on and obtain permits for the tag wall.*
- *Doleac will contact friends and get them to help distribute a new small flyer (8-1/2 x 11”) just for that show/concert.*



- *Rollofson will work on the flyer design and distribution to the Old Fire House Teen Center and other locations.*
- *Doleac will investigate DJ Tumbleweed logo or ads.*

Doleac noted that movie theatres and The Edge Skate Park are good locations for teens.

Doleac proposed having a Commissioner to focus just on marketing. McAlinden suggested orienting the Commission newcomers to the new RAC project-focused format. LaBrunerie responded that newcomers had been oriented, but they could contact her or Skillingstead if they needed a refresher.

## **D. New Business**

### **1. Indian Classical Dancer – September 26**

Sambamurti presented a proposal for a series of performing arts events called *Yours Multiculturally*. The goal would be to enhance the two already established events, Arts in the Parks (AIP) and the Winter Performance Series (WPS), starting with one or two events in the fall and in the spring.

Teller commented the proposal was well written with good ideas, e.g., short and interactive performances. McAlinden suggested looking at the attendance figures for *Write Out Loud!* who have held a similar program.

Sambamurti suggested working with local arts organizations in the city. She proposed inviting professional, international artists who would be visiting Seattle to also perform in Redmond. She knew of one such artist and suggested a Redmond lecture and demo with a performance on September 21. Skillingstead stated the Performing Arts budget is over allowance due to expanded publicity expenditures for AIP.

LaBrunerie proposed making the event idea one of the WPS shows instead. She suggested signing up those performers, earmarking money and having a placeholder for them.

Skillingstead noted performances could not be held in the fall or spring; there is no lead-time and no money during those seasons. She emphasized the need to stay in the same parameters as WPS and AIP without building anything new yet, since funding is already set for that. However, Skillingstead suggested that if Sambamurti knows, for example, of artists coming in winter, they could be incorporated into the WPS.

Sambamurti expressed the importance of seizing the opportunity with those international performers coming into the area from different parts of the world and not restricting them to the series. *Skillingstead will meet with Sambamurti*

*to discuss with her the performing arts budget and the process for performing arts.*

Houghton shared the following ideas: (1) Change the WPS format: Offer a performance at night, plus a workshop by the same performer during the day; or, (2) do salon shows; instruct people how to have them. ***Houghton will contact Penny Orloff, who may provide suggestions for these ideas.***

**E. Staff Reports**

None

**VIII. Arts Education**

**A. Project(s) Status**

The Arts Education Committee is on summer hiatus.

McAlinden noted there will be an “End of Project Celebration” on 7/16/03.

**B. Funding Needs**

None

**C. Marketing**

None

**D. New Business**

None

**E. Staff Reports**

None

**IX. Staff Reports**

**A. Report of Income from Donations**

Skillingstead referenced a handout reporting donations to Arts Commission programs since the beginning of the year.

**B. Policy and Procedures Manual**

Skillingstead received Commissioners’ edited copies of the RAC Policy and Procedures Manual draft. She will be working on a second draft from their input.

### **C. Goals and Mission Statements**

Houghton distributed various arts organizations' goals and mission statements from other Washington state cities. She noted there were three or four very good ones (e.g., Seattle and Bellevue) to review as models. ***Commissioners will read the examples prior to the retreat, and come prepared with comments on ones they liked.***

### **X. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn by:** Commissioner McAlinden

**Second by:** Commissioner Teller

**Motion carried:** 7-0 unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary, Pam Maybee

### **NEXT REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION MEETING:**

**August 14, 2003**

**Old Redmond School House Community Center**

**7:00 p.m.**